



ITEM# UJKA312

A MANTETSU KATANA

SIGNED & DATED, SHOWA PERIOD (SPRING 1943)

Swordsmith: *Kôa Isshin Mantetsu saku (ubu nakago)*
Date: *Shôwa mizunoto-hitsuji haru (spring time, Year of the Sheep in Showa era)*
Measurements: **Length:** 66.7cm **Curvature:** 1.6cm **Moto-haba:** 3.0cm **Weight:** 746g
Jihada: *Muji-hada*
Hamon: *Hoso-suguha (thin straight hamon)*
Included: Modern koshirae, bags, stand, kit, DVD, booklet, printed description

SOLD

For collectors of second world war memorabilia, this is a katana worth considering. Signed *Kôa Isshin* meaning "Asia-one heart" this katana personifies the immense patriotism Japan demonstrated during WWII. Curiously, *Mantetsu* steel was developed at the *Dairen Manchurian Railroad Factory* beginning in September of 1937. The phrase "*Kôa Isshin*" was used from 1939. Metallurgical examination of the steel has revealed that it is very close to pure iron.



This katana is dated to the spring of 1943, making it one of the later made Mantetsu katanas. It has a thin laser-beam like *hamon*, which is characteristic for swords from this factory. The sword feels solid in hand, and carries a cutting-edge length that is often seen in *gunto*, military mounted swords. A modern custom koshirae with a warrior and dragon theme was created especially for the sword. The red-vermillion lacquered *saya* matches the passion that this sword epitomizes. Please ask for video and photos. Blade is in the UK.